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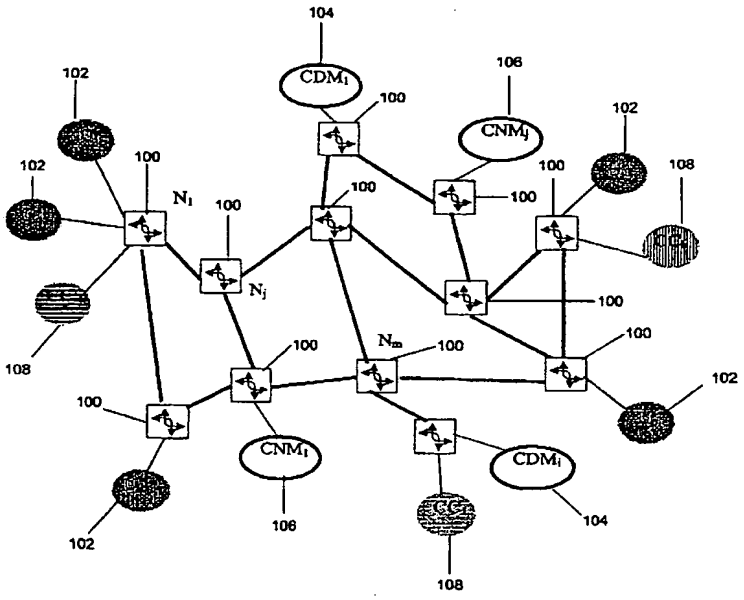
(54) Title: VIRTUAL CIRCUITS IN PACKET NETWORKS



(57) Abstract: Systems and methods for provisioning a virtual circuit having a predetermined Quality of Service (QoS) in packet networks such as the Internet. A system for provisioning a virtual circuit having a predetermined QoS is provided for a packet network, consisting of (1) a circuit client (108) connected to the network and able to generate a request for a packet flow between two nodes at a predetermined QoS; and (2) a circuit manager (CM) able to receive the circuit client's (108) request and process such request in order to provide a route between the two nodes, such route having the predetermined QoS.

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